

MARVEL
PSR+ 2

RODI
RIBIC

LOKI™





70 YEARS OF MARVEL COMICS



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LOKI
LAUFEYSON.

Loki

part two

my
LADY SIF.



COME TO
GLOAT, HAVE
YOU?

NO, LADY.
WHERE WOULD BE
THE SPORT IN IT? YOUR
OWN RUINED **BEAUTY**
WOULD SOUR THE TASTE
OF TRIUMPH IN MY
MOUTH.



YOU THERE--
HOLD. IT IS MY WILL
THAT YOU HEAR WHAT
THIS **TRAITOR** HAS
TO SAY.

AS
YOU WILL,
my LORD.



I SEE NOW
YOUR INTENT, FOOL.
WHY GLOAT OVER ONE
WHOSE SPIRIT CANNOT BE
BROKEN WHEN YOU CAN
BOAST AND TRUMPET TO
ONE WHOSE MANHOOD
IS ALREADY
YOURS?

CLEVERLY
PUT. BUT YOUR
TONGUE WAS EVER
ACID, WAS IT
NOT, LADY?

IF YOU
SAY SO, PRINCE
OF LIES.

OH, BUT I **DO**,
AS WHO WOULD NOT,
WHO HAD HEARD YOU IN
YOUR POISONOUS
GLORY...?



...WHAT A **ROUT**,
EH, BROTHER? THE
TROLL KING SHALL THINK
TWICE BEFORE HE NEXT
GIVES OFFENSE TO THE
SONS OF ASGARD!

...I KNOW THE
WARRIOR'S WAY IS BRUTE
BATTLE. BUT HAVE YOU NOT
CONSIDERED THE ADVANTAGES
TO BE HAD IN SOWING **SEDITION**
AMONG OUR ENEMIES...SUB-
VERTING HIS RANKS
THROUGH SUBTERFUGE
AND **SUBVERSION...**?



IT MAY
BE AS YOU
SAY--

HO!
SIF!

WHAT, THEN!
IS THAT **THOR** I
ESPY ON YONDER
KNOLL?



INDEED SO,
AND MY BROTHER
BESIDES! HAVE
YOU NEED OF OUR
AID?

RATHER,
HAVE YOU
NEED OF **MINE**,
ODINSON?

I FACE
BUT A COHORT OF
MURDEROUS TROLLS!
YOU, THE CRINGING HORROR
OF LAUFEYSON'S
COMPANY.



HAHAHAHAHA!

WELL PUT, SIF!

"...AND SO IT EVER WAS WITH YOU, LADY..."



...ALL THOSE WHOSE BEAUTY DID NOT REFLECT YOUR OWN WERE TO KNOW THE STING OF YOUR *RIDICULE*."



SELF-PITY, LOKI? AND I THOUGHT I HAD TAKEN FULL MEASURE OF YOUR FAILINGS. CONGRATULATIONS-- YOU SURPRISE ME YET.

AS FOR MY BEAUTY...LONG HAVE I KNOWN YOUR RESENTMENT THEREOF. FROM THE MOMENT, IN FACT--



BE SILENT!



--you TOOK *BLADE* TO MY *HAIR*!



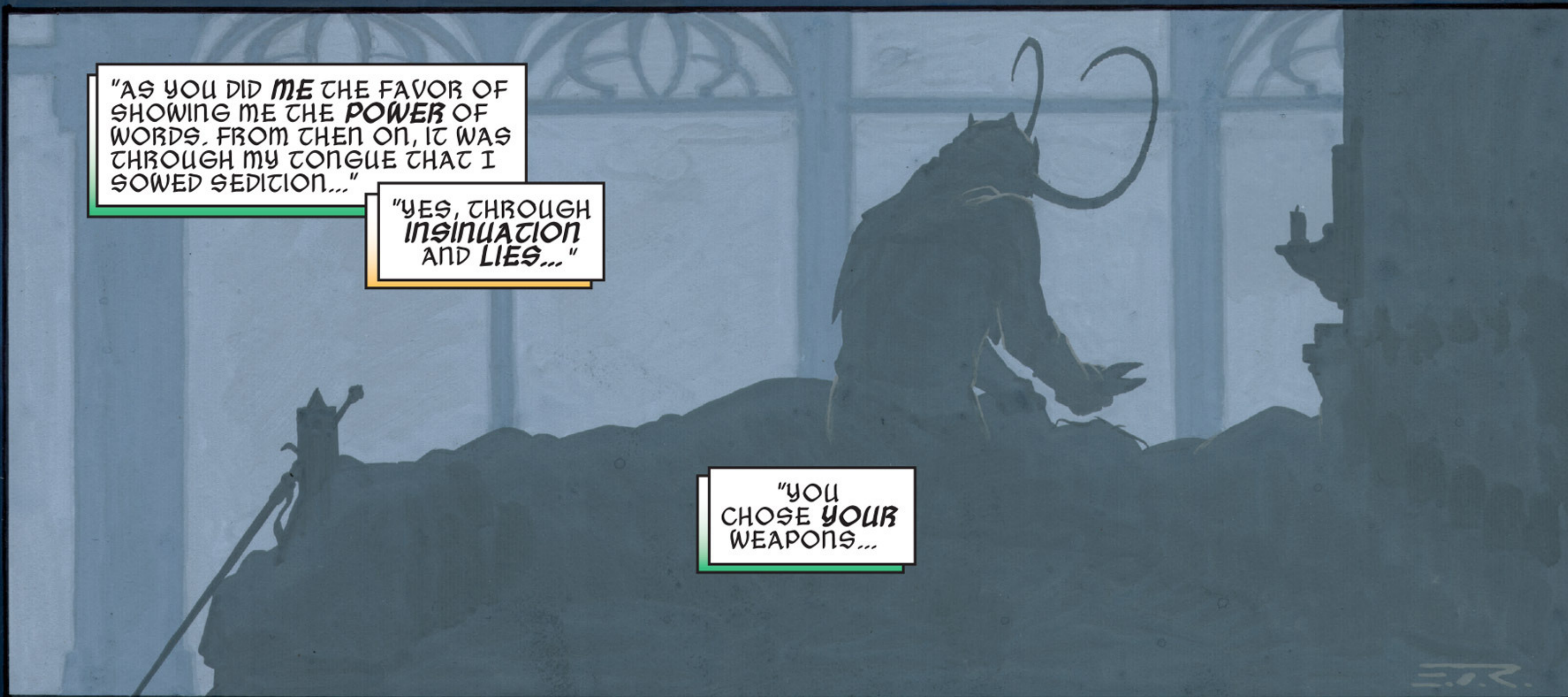
"I--I DID NO MORE
THAN I WAS DRIVEN
TO, LADY...BY YOUR
TAUNTS AND
MOCKERY."



"I HURT BECAUSE
I WAS **MEANT** TO
HURT. THERE WAS
EVER VIOLENCE IN
YOUR WORDS, LADY."



"THERE WAS **HONESTY** IN MY
WORDS, LOKI. I SAW FROM
THE FIRST WHAT YOU WERE,
AND SAID SO...YOU BUT DID
ME THE FAVOR OF SHOWING
ME TO BE RIGHT."



"AS YOU DID **ME** THE FAVOR OF
SHOWING ME THE **POWER** OF
WORDS. FROM THEN ON, IT WAS
THROUGH MY TONGUE THAT I
SOWED SEDITION..."

"YES, THROUGH
INSINUATION
AND **LIES...**"

"YOU
CHOSE **YOUR**
WEAPONS..."



"...I CHOSE
MINE."



WEAPONS NO
GOD WORTH THE NAME
WOULD DEIGN TO TOUCH.
BUT NEVER MIND, LOKI--
I FORGIVE YOU IN TRIBUTE
TO THAT **FINAL** FAVOR
YOU BESTOWED ME.

A **NAKED HEAD**,
ON WHICH THE DWARVES
BROKK AND **EITRI** MIGHT
AFFIX THESE RAVEN
TRESSES I HAVE WORN
SINCE...



...AND WHICH YOUR
BROTHER FINDS LOVELIER
STILL THAN THOSE GOLDEN
ONES I LOST TO YOUR
TREACHERY.

BE
SILENT!



YOU THOUGHT
TO **RUIN** THOR'S AFFECTION
FOR ME, BUT IN YOUR GROSS
INCOMPETENCE YOU FORGED
BETWEEN US A BOND FAR MORE
ENDURING THAN WE HAD
KNOWN BEFORE...

BE
SILENT!



POOR LOKI--
LORD OF ASGARD AT
LAST, HAVING ACHIEVED
VICTORY OVER ALL BUT HIS
OWN **WEAKNESS** AND
WITLESSNESS--

VIPER!



--LOKI
"LACKEYSON"--
RUNCY HEIR TO A
KINGDOM OF
GIANTS--PLACED IN
NOBLE ASGARD BY
A **FARCICAL**
FATE--

**FILTHY
SLATTERN!** I'LL
STILL YOUR VILE
TONGUE IF YOU
DON--



GOT
YOU--



...HELP...
...SUH-STOP HER...
G-G-GUARD...



...HELP...
...SUH-STOP HER...
G-G-GUARD...



...SSSTOP...





WHY DID YOU
DELAY? DID YOU
NOT SEE THAT
YOUR LORD WAS
IN NEED?



OR DID YOU
THINK THIS TRAITOROUS
SOW IN THE **RIGHT**? DID
YOU HEAR **NONE** OF WHAT
SHE SAID...?



SHE **ADMITS**
HER PERSECUTION
OF ME! SHE **ADMITS**
THAT MY ANCESTRY IS
THE SOURCE OF HER
DISDAIN--THAT SHE
TOOK **PLEASURE** IN
DIVIDING BROTHER
FROM BROTHER!

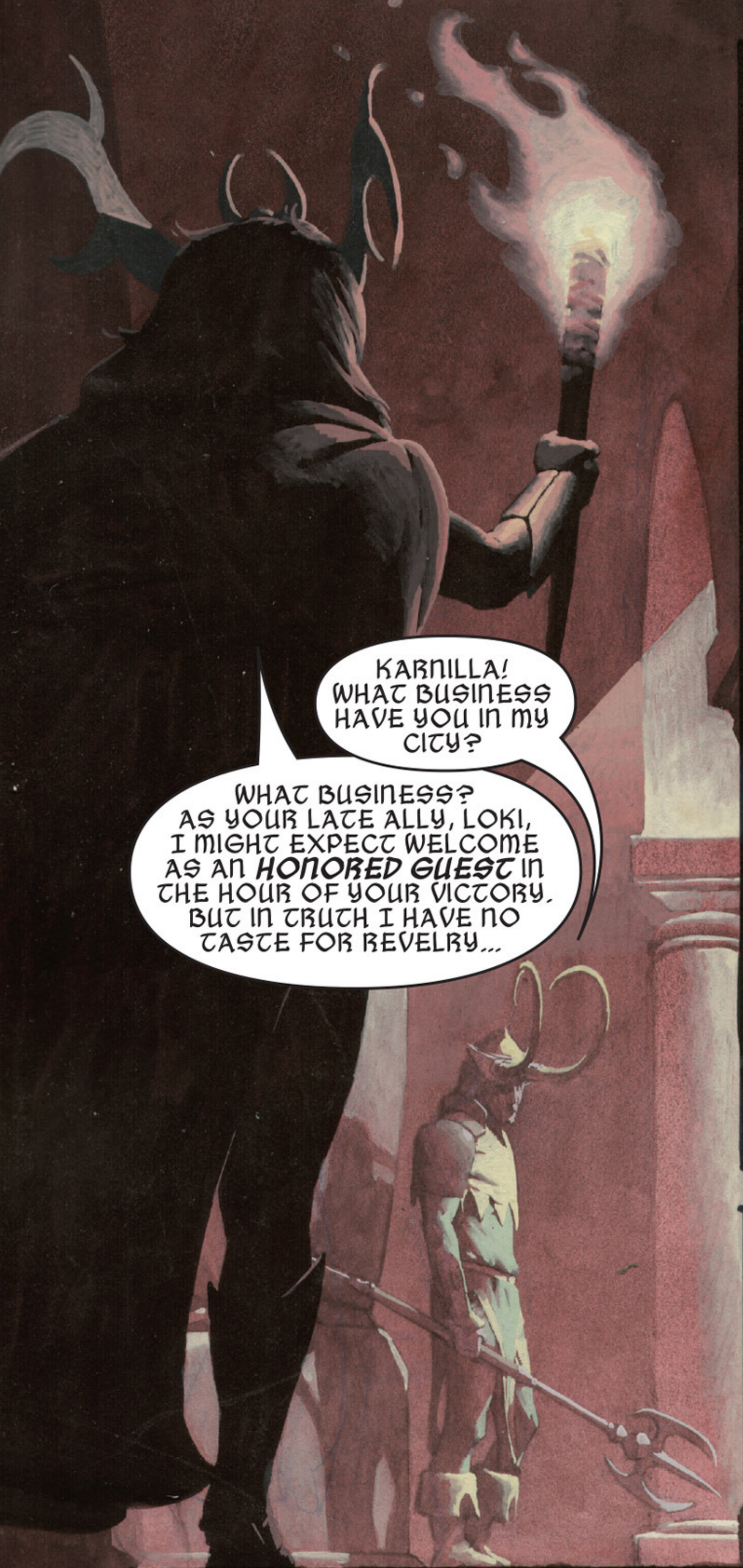


STRUMPET.
TEMPTRESS. **WICKED**
WOMAN. NOW SHALL
YOU REAP THE BENEFIT
OF YOUR
MALEVOLENCE...



...THOR
DIES AT
DAWN.





KARNILLA!
WHAT BUSINESS
HAVE YOU IN MY
CITY?

WHAT BUSINESS?
AS YOUR LATE ALLY, LOKI,
I MIGHT EXPECT WELCOME
AS AN *HONORED GUEST* IN
THE HOUR OF YOUR VICTORY.
BUT IN TRUTH I HAVE NO
TASTE FOR REVELRY...



...I HAVE COME TO
SEE MY LORD **BALDER**.
YET THERE IS NONE HERE
WHO WILL LEAD ME TO
HIM.

BY *my*
ORDER. BALDER IS
MY PRISONER.



I REMIND
YOU, LORD OF
ASGARD, IN
EXCHANGE FOR
MY ASSISTANCE
YOU VOWED TO
SPARE BALDER'S
LIFE, AND TO
DELIVER HIM
INTO MY
KEEPING.

I *HAVE*
SPARED BALDER,
NORN QUEEN. AND
WHILE I DID AGREE
TO SUBMIT HIM TO
YOUR CARE...



...I MADE
NO PROMISE AS
TO *WHEN*.



BEWARE,
LOKI LAUFEYSON--
NO KING SHOULD STRIVE
TO TURN ALLIES INTO
ENEMIES, ESPECIALLY
SHOULD THAT ALLY BE
KARNILLA.



AS I
TURNED IN
YOUR FAVOR,
SO MAY I
YET TURN
AGAIN!

jotunheim.

LOKI...

asgard.

...LOKI...



...THE QUEEN
OF NORNS YET HAS
ALLIES IN **OTHER** REALMS,
DECEITFUL ONE...REALMS
BOTH **CELESTIAL** AND
SORCEROUS...

CURSE THE
WOMAN...SHE HAS THE
PERSISTENCE OF A
HELLHOUND! WHERE IS THE
WARDEN? WHERE IS
MY **GUARD**?



...AND WHO
NOW SAFEGUARDS
THE **RAINBOW**
BRIDGE, LORD OF
ASGARD...?



...WHAT IS
TO PREVENT ME
SUMMONING
BRUNNHILDE THE
VALKYRIE AND THE
HEROES OF **MIDGARD**
TO UNDO WHAT YOU
HAVE DONE...?



...LAUFEYSON!
SHOW YOURSELF!
KARNILLA WILL NOT BE
SHUNNED SO...



WELL-
DONE,
LOKI.



EH?



BALDER!

A full-page illustration showing Thor on the left and Loki on the right, both in Asgardian armor and chained to a wall of large stone blocks. Thor is looking back at Loki with a concerned expression. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows.

YOU ARE SURPRISED, GOD OF MISCHIEF. YOU FLEE THE JAWS OF MY WOULD-BE LOVER INTO MY OWN DIMINISHED PRESENCE...



...AND YET IN ASGARD THERE IS NO COINCIDENCE. AMONG THE GODS, EACH SEEMINGLY RANDOM EVENT INVOLVES AN ELEMENT BOTH OF *CHOICE* AND OF *DESTINY*.

A close-up of Thor's face as he looks through vertical metal bars. His expression is one of intense determination and anger.

PRATTLE ALL YOU LIKE, DEFEATED ONE. I SHALL NOT TROUBLE YOU LONG.



ARE YOU IN SUCH A HURRY, THEN, TO SEE YOUR BROTHER DEAD?

A close-up of Loki's hand reaching out towards Thor. The background is dark and out of focus.

--WHAT?
OF WHAT DO YOU SPEAK?



YOU HAVE EVER VOWED THOR'S DESTRUCTION, LOKI. WERE THOSE OATHS MERE *WIND*? THE RESULT OF UNGUARDED ANGER, LATER REGRETTED?

A close-up of Thor's face, looking directly at the viewer with a stern, unwavering expression. He is wearing his horned helmet.



YOU...YOU
BOGGLE ME. WOULD
YOU **HAVE** ME KILL
HIM, THEN?

I WOULD
SEE YOU
TRY, GOD OF
MISCHIEF.



YOU WILL
SEE NOTHING. BUT
YOU SHALL **HEAR** OF
THE DEED, WHEN IT
IS DONE.

IT NEVER
WILL BE DONE,
ATTEMPT IT
THOUGH YOU
MUST.



YOU SURMISE
THAT, AS I FAILED
TO KILL YOU, SO I
MUST FAIL TO KILL
ANOTHER.

I
KNOW
YOU WILL
FAIL.



DO YOU
APPREHEND, BALDER,
THAT THIS EXCHANGE MARKS
THE **LENGTHIEST** WE HAVE
YET SHARED?

I ACCEPT
YOUR WORD ON
THE MATTER.

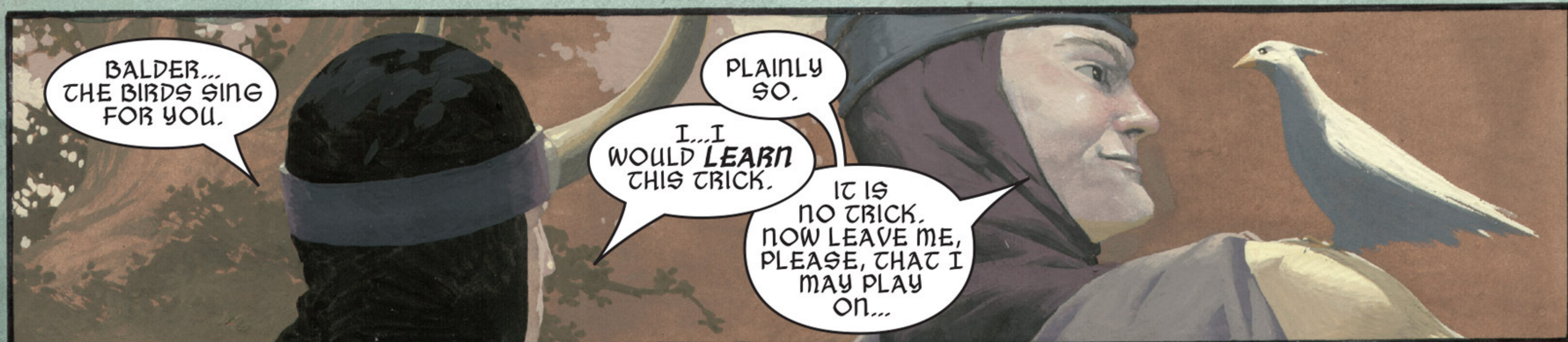


YOU
MAY DO SO WITH
CONFIDENCE.

FROM THE
TIME OF OUR YOUTH,
I WAS SUBJECTED TO
DERISION, HUMILIATION
AND **PERSECUTION** BY MY
STEBROTHER AND ALL
HIS CIRCLE...EXCEPTING
ONLY YOU.



"...FROM YOU, BALDER, I KNEW
INSTEAD THE YET MORE
WITHERING MORTIFICATION
OF UTTER **DISREGARD**..."



BALDER...
THE BIRDS SING
FOR YOU.

PLAINLY
SO.

I...I
WOULD **LEARN**
THIS TRICK.

IT IS
NO TRICK.
NOW LEAVE ME,
PLEASE, THAT I
MAY PLAY
ON...



"BALDER THE **BRAVE**,
BALDER THE **GOLDEN**,
BALDER THE **ADORED**,
WHOM ALL CREATION
SWORE TO CHERISH..."

"WHAT WOULD I NOT HAVE
GIVEN TO HAVE SUCH A ONE
TURN HIS MIND, HOWEVER
BRIEFLY, TO **ME**!"



"BUT ALAS...TO SEE ME,
MUST HE SHIFT HIS FOCUS
FROM HIS OWN
MAGNIFICENCE, WHEREIN
HE WAS WELL CONTENTED,
AND SO IT WAS NOT TO BE."



AS EVER,
YOU MAKE SPORT
OF THE **TRUTH**,
LOKI...

...IF MY
ATTENTION WAS
THE THING YOU CRAVED,
WHY THEN ATTEMPT MY
MURDER?



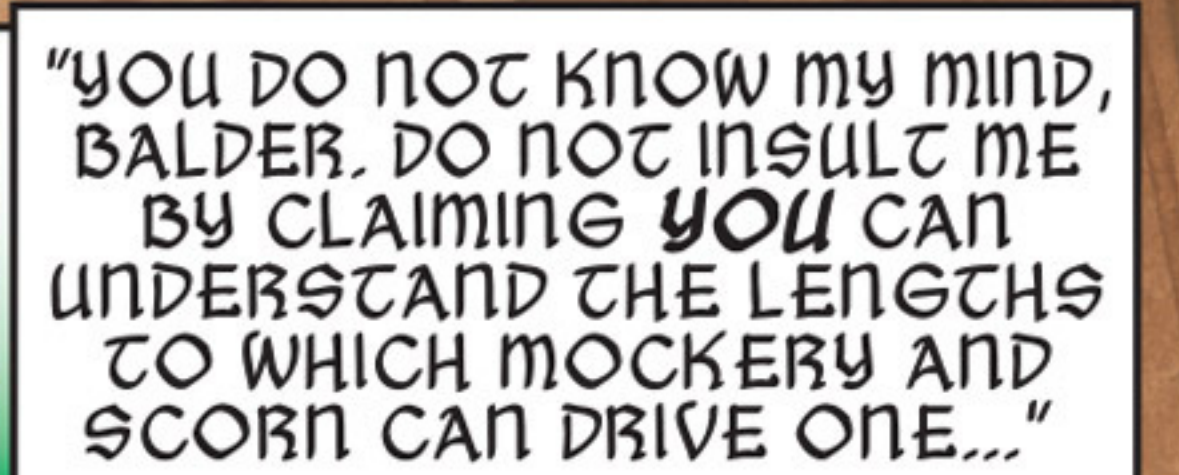
"THAT WAS **RASH**,
I DO ADMIT. I WAS
MADE MAD WITH
JEALOUSY; YOU HAD
TAKEN MY PLACE IN
THE HEARTS OF
THOSE WHO OWED
ME AFFECTION--
ODIN MY FATHER,
FRIGGA
my mother..."



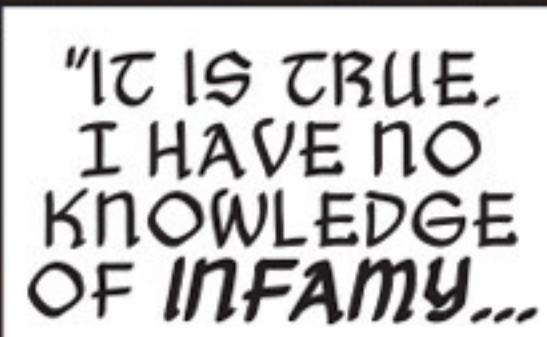
"AND BY SLAYING
ME YOU SOUGHT TO
WIN THEIR APPROVAL?
...**NAY**, I FORGET: IT
WAS NOT **YOU** WHO
STRUCK ME DOWN..."



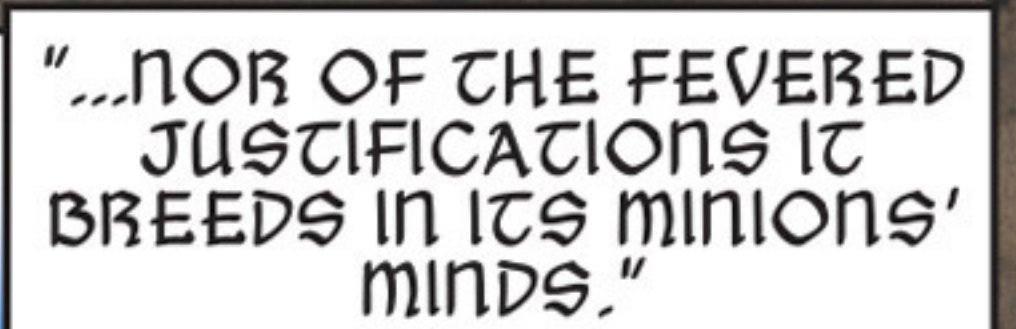
"...YOU TRICKED BLIND
HODER INTO DOING THE
DEED, IN THE COWARDLY
HOPE THAT HE WOULD
STAND GUILTY IN YOUR
PLACE."



"YOU DO NOT KNOW MY MIND,
BALDER. DO NOT INSULT ME
BY CLAIMING **YOU** CAN
UNDERSTAND THE LENGTHS
TO WHICH MOCKERY AND
SCORN CAN DRIVE ONE..."



"IT IS TRUE.
I HAVE NO
KNOWLEDGE
OF **INFAMY**..."



"...NOR OF THE FEVERED
JUSTIFICATIONS IT
BREEDS IN ITS MINIONS'
MINDS."



YOU DARE TO BANDY WORDS WITH ME, GOLDEN ONE? WHO IS LORD HERE? WHO IS IN **CHAINS**?

YOU ARE LORD LOKI, AND I AM IN CHAINS. BUT WE SPEAK ONLY OF **THIS** MOMENT. ETERNITY COMPRISES MANY SUCH, AND I KNOW **MORE** OF THESE THAN YOU...

OF WHAT DO YOU SPEAK?



YOU FORGET--WHILE HODER'S ARROW DID NOT KILL ME, YET FOR A TIME WAS MY SPIRIT THRUST INTO **HEL**.

I HAVE WALKED THE LAND OF THE DEAD AND PEERED OVER THE PRECIPICE OF **ETERNITY**. AND I KNOW MUCH OF GODS AND OF THE **STUFF** OF GODS THAT GODS THEMSELVES DO NOT SURMISE.

YOU SPEAK TO CONFOUND ME. I WILL NOT LISTEN.

THERE ARE **MANY** LOKIS... JUST AS THERE ARE MANY THORS, AND MANY BALDERS. EACH ONE EXISTS APART FROM THE OTHERS, YET IS CONJOINED BY A SHARED ESSENCE, LIKE **BRANCHES** ON A TREE. EACH ONE IS DISTINCTLY HIMSELF AND YET CONSTRAINED BY CERTAIN **UNIVERSALITIES**.



IN SOME INCARNATIONS, LOKI IS CALLED **LOCK**. IN SOME, HE IS **LOGE**. IN STILL OTHERS, **LOKES**, OR **LODER**. BUT ALWAYS HE PLAYS THE SAME ROLE IN THE ORDER OF THINGS THAT NEITHER HE NOR ANY POWER MAY ALTER.



I HAVE SEEN LOKI AS ODIN'S ADOPTED **BROTHER** INSTEAD OF HIS SON... I HAVE SEEN HIM FATHER TO GRIM **HELA**, BY THE WOMB OF THE GIANTESS **ANGERBODA**...



...I HAVE SEEN HIM AS A **WOMAN**, FROM HIS OWN WOMB BRINGING FORTH THE EIGHT-LIMBED FOAL **SLEIPNIR**. I HAVE EVEN SEEN HIM **SUCCEED** IN SLAYING BALDER, PRECIPITATING THE FALL OF ASGARD AND THE TWILIGHT OF THE GODS...

...BUT NEVER HAVE I SEEN HIM **RULE**.



BE
SILENT!

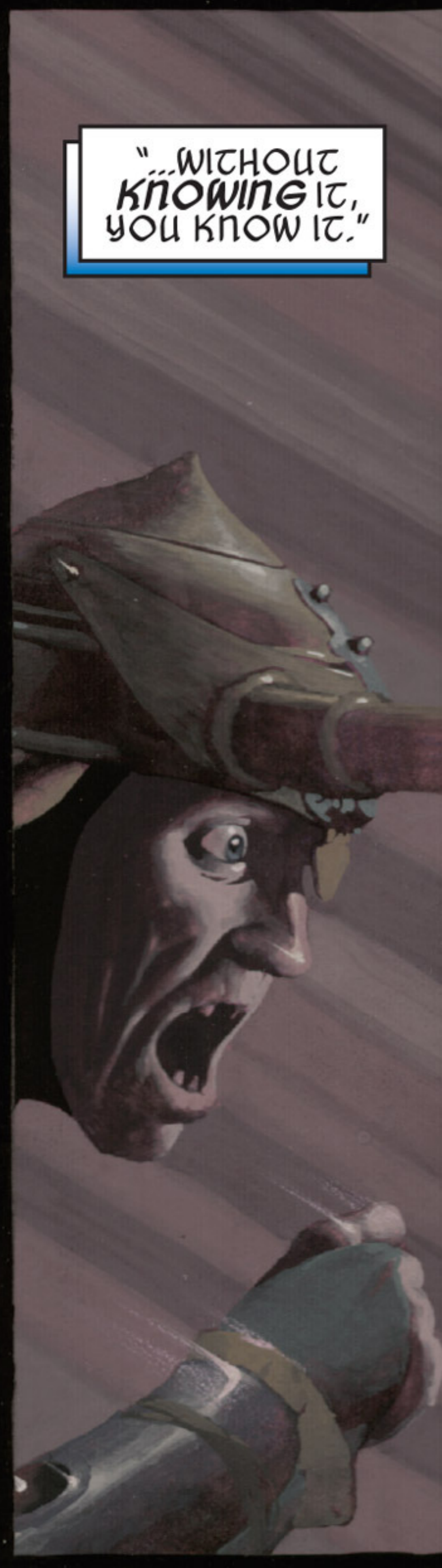
YOUR
IMMUTABLE NATURE,
LOKI, IS CONFIRMED
ACROSS COUNTLESS
INCARNATIONS: INSTIGATOR
OF **CONFLICTS**,
TRANSGRESSOR OF
BOUNDARIES, SOWER
OF **DISCORD** ...



no!



"... BUT **NEVER** LORD, THE
GOD OF **MISRULE** CANNOT
RULE. YOU KNOW THIS TO
BE SO...



"... WITHOUT
KNOWING IT,
YOU KNOW IT."



TO BE
FACED TO
LOSE.

TO KNOW
DESTINY ITSELF
THE ARCHITECT OF
MY TORMENT.

CAN IT BE
TRUE? IS TO
BE **LOKI** TO
BE WITHOUT
HOPE?

AND IF SO...
TO WHOM CAN A
GOD APPEAL FOR
MERCY?

BUT I
MUST KNOW.
I MUST BE
CERTAIN...

the plain of ida.





WARDEN!
I GAVE YOU
NO LEAVE TO
ABANDON
ME.

MY LORD...
I HAD THOUGHT
YOU MIGHT CRAVE
PRIVACY...



SO I *DID*. BUT IT WAS NOT
FOR YOU TO PRESUME SUCH.
YOU MUST LEARN TO AWAIT
MY **WORD**.

YES,
MY LORD.

AS MUST
MY GUARD. WHERE
HAS THE VILLAIN
GOT TO?



I HAVE NOT
SEEN HIM **DEPART**,
MY LORD...

THEN SEE
THAT HE NEVER DOES.
IF HE FINDS SUCH
TEMPTATION IN THIS
PLACE AS CAN ENTICE HIM
FROM HIS DUTY, LET HIM
SPEND A LIFETIME HERE
INDULGING IT.

YES,
MY LORD.



THE **NORN QUEEN**
REMAINS AS WELL, MY LORD,
AND YET SEEKS YOU OUT
MOST EAGERLY.

TELL THE
WRETCHED
BATTLE-AXE
THAT I...

NO.
WAIT.



SEND
HER TO ME. THE
PALACE.



THE
QUEEN OF
NORNHEIM,
MY LORD.

ADMIT
HER.

AUDIENCE
AT LAST!

I WONDER
THAT YOU SEE ME
NOW, MY LORD, BEFORE
I HAVE HAD CHANCE TO
APOLOGIZE FOR MY
ROUGH SPEECH ERE
LAST WE MET.

WHAT YOU CALL
"ROUGH SPEECH" I
CALL THREATS AND
CHALLENGES--YEA,
AND **TREASON**,
TOO.

NOT SO, MY
LORD! YOU KNOW
MY TONGUE TO BE
QUICKER THAN MY
HEAD!

FEAR NOT,
KARNILLA, YOU ARE
SAFE FROM MY WRATH.
INDEED, I AM EVEN
MINDED TO RELEASE
YOUR **LOVER** INTO
YOUR CARE...



...BUT
FIRST, YOU
MUST PERFORM
A SMALL
SERVICE FOR
ME...